

THE PACIFIC  
Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR.

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## AN AGRICULTURAL PARALLEL.

The people who carp at the agricultural capacity of Hawaii have their prototypes in the early annals of California. When the miners flocked there in 1849 and for some years later, they regarded California as a desert in which any form of agriculture would be necessarily fruitless. Coming from the verdant East and knowing nothing of irrigation, they looked askance at the treeless and arid mesas, the summer's drouth, the sand and adobe, at the bunch-grass and prickly pear. To them California was merely a mining country to which one's daily bread must be imported; and for a good while they brought wheat, fruits, vegetables and even soft-filling for their beds from Hawaii.

Necessity, in due time, drove them to the cultivation of wheat—in which the mission fathers had, indeed, preceded them—and of fruit and garden truck. They were amazed to find, even in the valley of the San Joaquin, that when they "ticked the earth with a hoe it laughed a harvest." Of all places the San Joaquin had been the most unpromising; and in 1852 a Government survey had pronounced its case hopeless. It was part of the Great American Desert we used to see on the maps; a spot inhabitable only by the Indian, the rattlesnake and the horned toad. Indeed, all of California was so maligned by no less a personage than Daniel Webster who, rising in his place in the Senate to discuss the proposed annexation of California, said:

"What do we want of this vast, worthless area, this region of savages and wild beasts, of deserts, of shifting sands and whirlwinds, of dust, of cactus and prairie dogs? To what use could we ever hope to put these great deserts or these endless mountain ranges, impenetrable or covered to their bases with eternal snow? What can we ever hope to do with the western coast, a coast of three thousand miles, rockbound, cheerless and uninviting, with not a harbor in it? What use have we for such a country? Mr. President, I will never vote one cent from the public treasury to place the Pacific coast one inch nearer Boston than it is today."

But California gradually, but surely, unfolded itself. First vegetables and cereals were raised; then fruit and wine were added to the resources of the new State; and today there is little grown in the north temperate zone which does not find in California a natural habitat. And new agricultural merits are all the time being discovered. Observe this in a recent number of the Los Angeles Times:

"The possibilities of the soil in California are constantly widening. Fifty years ago, the pioneers doubted whether California would ever be able to raise enough wheat for home consumption. Ten years ago, it was generally understood that we could not raise good apples in Southern California. A display of Southern California apples, made at the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce last year, opened the eyes of many people on this subject. It is true that apples cannot be successfully grown all over Southern California—nor can oranges for that matter—but in a section which possesses such a remarkable variety of climate and soil, ranging from the frostless belts of the foothills to mountain valleys, where there is snow for several months of the year, it would be strange if some localities were not found where the apple, regarded by some as the king of fruits, flourishes."

Had the early miners found in California a country like Hawaii, the question of agricultural capacity would not have been raised. One glance at the Hawaiian lands would have been enough to teach them, coming as they did from eastern and southern farms, that these islands were the natural home of the husbandman. Singularly enough, however, it is our own people who, in so many cases, remain to be convinced, despite the opulent results of sugar planting, the truck farm successes of the Asiatics, the lusty growth of banana, pineapple and sisal and the encouraging news about tobacco and vanilla. In time, of course, Hawaiians will wake up to their opportunities, as Californians have done; but it is a pity that their eyes are not open now.

It is well known that the printing grafters are trying to get Mahelona appointed chairman of the printing committee with a view to working the old game. There is but one way to deal with the printing question, and that is to let the legislative work out to the lowest bidder. If Mahelona gets the control of the matter the fat will be in the fire and the smell will probably reach the nostrils of the grand jury.

Though little was said of the battle of Hecoutai at the time, the estimate of a 25,000 loss to the Russians alone, must, if true, put Hecoutai in the Wilderness and Antietam class.

If the Russians have concentrated 450,000 men before Oyama and the Baltic fleet means business, the war in the Orient will have a fine spring opening.

## THE LEGISLATURE.

The Legislature which convenes today has serious responsibilities to meet. Work is cut out for it which will test its industry and civic patriotism and bring it face to face with the criticism of Washington, as well as of Hawaii. Much depends upon how things are started. If the best men in the Legislature are put in charge of the committees, and there is a strong, honest speaker to preside over the House, the session ought to answer the best expectations of the public and of Congress.

There are, of course, some grafters in the Legislature and, as we have pointed out before, they are in a position to do more mischief, if permitted to, than their kind has done in Hawaii for a long time past. It should be kept clearly in view that self-government in Hawaii is not yet established. What Congress has given, Congress may take away; and at this time, when many Congressmen are considering whether it would not be better to put Hawaii into the colonial class, the Legislature cannot afford to let its grafters control it. Economy, retrenchment and reform are watchwords which ought to be heeded for safety's sake.

There is danger in the possession of nearly undivided control of both houses—danger of factions and cabals to take the place of definite party lines; and at the same time a fixed responsibility for all that happens which cannot be unloaded on Democrats and Home Rulers. Under these circumstances the closer all the leaders get to the Governor, the more likely they will be to preserve harmony and work with a single purpose.

## APPROPOS OF CODE REVISION.

"Perhaps the greatest service Jefferson performed for his native State was to revise the laws of Virginia, which were a chaos of obsolete and antiquated enactment—good for lawyers, but bad for clients. A Committee of Revision was elected by the Assembly by ballot. The other members were Edmund Randolph, George Wythe, his preceptor, George Mason, and F. L. Lee. The two last named, not being lawyers, did little work. Jefferson took the greater part of the burden upon his own shoulders, and produced a revision which was not only important to the State, but was the most arduous and perplexing labor of his life. In those days, when printing presses were scarce, the acts passed by the Legislature seldom went beyond the final enrolled copy, and lawyers were compelled to procure transcripts of them. As a natural result many of the local courts and lawyers found themselves without copies. Jefferson made a very valuable collection of the Virginia laws. He found difficulty in procuring copies of some of them—some appeared to have perished, others were written on paper so rotten with age that it would crumble at the touch, and the ink used in others had almost faded out. 'I set myself to work, therefore,' he says, 'to collect all which were then existing, in order that when the day should come, in which the public should advert to the magnitude of their loss in these precious monuments of our property and our history, a part of their regret might be spared by information that a portion had been saved from the wreck, which is worthy of their attention and preservation. In searching after these remains, I spared neither time, trouble nor expense.' Thus during the days of his practice he was preparing for the duty of revision which he was determined to perform, and had to furnish the greater part of the copy used by himself and his associates. The State owed the preservation of its laws to this careful young student."

"During the first month of the work of revision he proposed enough work to keep the Legislature busy for ten years. His first bill established a new judiciary for the State, defining its powers, jurisdiction, and rules of procedure." \* \* \* —The True Thomas Jefferson, by Wm. E. Curtis.

It is stated in an afternoon paper that the Metropolitan Meat Co. intends to raise the wholesale price of meat to the butchers. The directors of the company deny that they have taken or intend to take any such course.

Herbert Young was made captain of the waterfront police yesterday. The appointment is one of the best that High Sheriff Henry has made.

A correspondent writing in the Australasian thus describes a performance of "Othello" in a Malay theater: "It was all in Malay, of course, but where they had got the European costumes from I cannot imagine. They were of all kinds and descriptions. Othello was dressed as a torador, with tennis shoes on; Cassio, as Henry VIII.; Iago in a black velvet court suit, with a barrister's wig well down over his nose; Desdemona, in a short Spanish dancing girl's dress; Rodrigo, a green Druid's gown, with pink stockings and tanned boots. But the joke of the whole thing was the music. There was a Malay orchestra of banjos, mandolins, etc., but they played scarcely any native music. They all simply love European music, to which they set their own Malay words. The whole play was interspersed with songs, just like our comic operas."

## LOCAL BREVITIES.

George Henshall of the Star has returned from his trip to Kona and Kauai. Miss Annie Whitney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Whitney is expected to return from the mainland in April.

Very little was doing on change yesterday. Thirteen shares of McBryde sold at \$8.75 and thirty-eight Oukala at \$7.50. These are both big drops in price.

Senator Palmer Woods held a Democratic caucus all by himself yesterday morning, and resolved to make no nomination for the Presidency of the Senate.

James S. Angus of San Francisco, and Henry G. Danford of M. S. Grinbaum & Co., sailed by the Claudine yesterday for Hana. They go to look over the Hana plantation in which Mr. Angus is interested.

Among the passengers of the Volcano departing by the Kinau yesterday were Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Mefford of Toledo, Ohio, who were induced to make the visit to the island, through hearing an address by Bishop Restarick.

Argument in the first of the fisheries cases was concluded before Judge De Bolt yesterday morning and consideration of the other cases went over until Friday. There are eighty-two cases in all, though it is possible that some of them will be grouped for hearing.

Articles of incorporation of the Kaleku Sugar Company, Limited, have been filed with the treasurer, the capital stock being \$500,000 with reserved power to increase to one million. The officers are M. S. Grinbaum, president; E. J. Benjamin, vice president; A. Gartling, treasurer and H. G. Danford, secretary. The principal place of business is to be Honolulu.

The Man Sing Company, Limited, whose purpose is to grow rice and conduct a rice mill, filed articles of incorporation yesterday. The principal place of business is Honolulu, and the capital stock is \$500, which may be increased to \$25,000. The officers are Ho Poi, president; Young Mook, vice president; Chang Chee, treasurer and manager; Young Ping, secretary; Young Pang, Young Ching and Chang Aching, directors.

## HAWAIIAN OFFICE SPECIALTY CO. OPENING.

The dealership of the Remington Typewriter Company, formerly under the management of Mr. J. H. Harrison, has been transferred to the Hawaiian Office Specialty Company, which is under the management of Mr. O. E. McCarthy and Mr. Wm. W. Gilly. This company will continue the business at Mr. Harrison's former office residence, 129 Hotel street, Honolulu.

In connection with the Remington typewriter line, this company will also handle mimeographs, duplicating machines and supplies, office cabinets, including the vertical filing card system and card ledgers and supplies for all makes of cabinets. In connection with this they will furnish systems to fit any business.

They are also agents for and will handle the Edison and Bates automatic numbering machines; swinging typewriter stands and telephone brackets; Pelouze scales for desk, office and library; adding machines, and the Victor safes and vault furniture. This company is thoroughly posted on all the specialties mentioned and are prepared to give information concerning all office specialties.

In addition to the above the company will be thoroughly equipped to repair all typewriting machines, adding machines and mimeographs, and will run a general repair shop in connection with their business. Mr. McCarthy, who is well known to the typewriter users of this city, will give his personal attention to this department, and will furnish estimates, if desired, on repair work in each individual case.

The Hawaiian Office Specialty Company further intend to install a "Free Employment Department" to aid stenographers and typists in search of positions, and business houses in search of stenographers and typists. The company will carry on this department extensively and endeavor to keep in close touch with both parties, who are welcome to apply at the office, and will be assisted gratuitously.

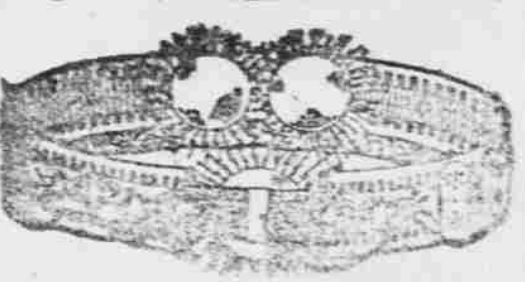
## A WOMAN SMUGGLER.

(Continued from page 1.) have to stand and the penalty of three times the value of the goods exacted. A judgment would be taken out for that amount if the fine was not paid. "And by the way," he said blandly to the daughter, "has your mother any property?"

"No, she has not," snapped the young woman—"except me."

"Well," remarked Breckons, amiably, "if we could attach you and put you up at auction you would probably bring enough to pay the fine."

## FOR WEAK MEN.



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## Pain in Stomach.

It has been said that a healthy person doesn't know he has a stomach.

How unhealthy the dyspeptic must be!

He feels as if he were all stomach, and one thing that makes him feel so is that pain at the pit of the stomach—sometimes an "all-gone feeling"; sometimes a "burning sensation."

"I suffered from pains in my stomach and could not eat. An old gentleman told me to take Hood's Sarsaparilla, which I did, and after the use of four bottles I gained my appetite, and I was soon completely cured, so that now I feel like a new man. On no account would I be without Hood's Sarsaparilla in my house." HENRY CALLAN, 71 Commercial St., Portland, Me.

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Cure dyspepsia, invigorate and tone the whole digestive system.

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have opened a horse-shoeing department in connection with their carriage shop, etc. Having secured the services of a first-class shoer, they are prepared to do all work intrusted to them in a first-class manner.

## Pacific Hardware Co., Ltd.

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A special machine, with all the latest improvements at a special price.

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Picture frames and mouldings.

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Pyrography outfits, and blanks.

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The safe is well made and covered with grain leather. Provided with drop door in front with a memorandum tablet corresponding to the number of negatives within.

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